

Board of Commissioners

May 5, 2008 – 8:45 am

Meeting called to order by President Rininger. Commissioners Rininger, Logsdon, Gogel, and Board Attorney Lueken were present.

Minutes

Minutes 02/29/2008; 04/07/2008; 04/15/2008; Rininger asked that an additional sentence explaining that the earmark for the public safety building will run parallel with the grant application be added to the 02/29/2008 minutes. Gogel made a motion to approve all minutes with the stated addition. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Claims

Logsdon made a motion to approve all claims. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Resolution 2008-02 Lincoln Celebration

Rininger read the resolution which was presented to the commissioners at the last meeting by Dean Bolin, representing Think Lincoln, and modified by Lueken, as follows:

A Resolution declaring Spencer County shall observe the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration from May 5, 2008 until September 30, 2010.

WHEREAS, the nation plans to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln spent his formative years in Indiana, living in what is now Spencer County from 1816-1830; and

WHEREAS, it is fit and proper that Spencer County should take a leadership role in the celebration of Lincoln's life here in Indiana; and

WHEREAS, various Spencer County organizations have planned a series of events collectively known as the Spencer County Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners encourages residents to participate in the Bicentennial as part of the local, state and national celebrations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the period of May 5, 2008 until September 30, 2010 be declared as the time period of Spencer County's Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration as part of the national Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration.

RESOLVED this 5th day of May, 2008.

SPENCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Dan Rininger, President
Thomas A. Logsdon
David Gogel

Attest:
Cindy Shelton, Auditor

Gogel made a motion to pass Resolution 2008-02. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Meeting Date Change

Logsdon asked for the meeting scheduled for June 17th to be moved to June 24th due to a scheduling conflict. Discussion was had on moving the first meeting of each month to the first Tuesday instead of the first Monday. Logsdon made a motion to move the regular first meeting of each month from the first Monday to the first Tuesday, except for when the first Tuesday falls on an election day. Gogel seconded. All in favor. Logsdon made a motion to move the seconded meeting in June from the 17th to the 24th. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

The Way

Ron Conner of The Way addressed the commissioners regarding the old jail building. Conner reported that The Way has met with the City of Rockport as the commissioners requested. He also gave the commissioners copies of statements regarding the asbestos removal and steel removal. Conner stated that if the county agreed to move forward, then the next step would be for The Way to petition the Board of Zoning Appeals of Rockport, but since the county is the owner of the building, the county would have to join in the petition.

Conner then explained that he is not at the meeting to ask the commissioners to move forward now. He said that in working with Community Corrections there may be even greater possibilities for the old jail or the land on which it is built.

Prosecutor Dartt explained that Community Corrections is looking at the long range plan. He stated that the Sheriff is in need of more space and would like to be able to do more work release. Community Corrections Director Janice Weber stated that she has visited the Greene County Community Corrections Building. She explained that the building was fully funded through the Department of Corrections (DOC). One of the big advantages of the building is that on work release \$100 is paid to the county by the inmate and the balance of the inmate's check goes home to their family. Weber stated that The Way can also be a part of this program.

Logsdon discussed the program available in Vanderburgh County. He explained that the program offers a support system, both faith based and economic based. Discussion was had on work release. Residents are not on the street at night. Weber stated that with work release the inmate only has time to go to and from work.

Weber stated that she is just getting information about a Community Corrections building right now. Conner stated that The Way would support having a Community Corrections building but if the plan stalls or does not work out for the county, he would like the commissioners to still consider letting The Way use the building. Dartt stated that he hopes to have the information together within the next 30 days. Weber stated that DOC is willing to come down and speak with the county. Rininger stated that the city also needs to be kept informed.

Lueken discussed the location of the possible building. Weber stated that the offenders in a work release program cannot be violent or sex offenders.

Logsdon asked about the outcome of the meeting held between The Way, the City of Rockport, and the citizens of Rockport. Cindy Limp stated that the meeting was for information and they did not feel it was a time for protest. Jack Morrison stated that no one spoke against the program. Cindy Limp stated that the meeting was held during the day and many people who work could not attend. Logsdon asked that any meeting in the future be held in the evening. Rininger stated that the county wants to keep everyone fully informed. Dick Lawson asked if the county would maintain ownership of the property. Rininger stated yes, this would be a county owned building. Logsdon clarified that there are two different options being discussed, the possibility of creating a new facility or using the current building. He stated that if the building is seriously being looked into, a committee needs to be put together with representatives from the council, the commissioners and community corrections to discuss and keep everyone informed.

Lawson stated that he is not opposed to the program, but he asked if it could be located elsewhere in the county, not on Main Street. Rininger stated that is always a possibility. The location next to the jail seems to be the most convenient, but everything at this point is up for discussion.

Logsdon stated that the important thing is that support needs to be there for the people being released or they will be right back in jail.

Homeland Security District 10

Maddison Seib, Administrative Coordinator for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security District 10, spoke to the commissioners about the District Planning Oversight Committee (DPOC). The membership of the DPOC is comprised of local officials, with a primary mission of selecting the members of the District Planning Council and providing executive oversight, support and guidance.

Ford Explorer

Perdue requested that the Ford Explorer which is being replaced in the Sheriff's department, be transferred to the EMA department. It would replace the Chevrolet Caprice currently being used by the department because the Explorer has towing capabilities. Painter stated that the Explorer has some problems and it can be taken to get an estimate on the work needed. The board will make a decision when the estimate is obtained.

Trash Complaint

Robert Sumner who lives at the intersection of CR 850 W and Eureka Road addressed the commissioners about the condition of the property of his neighbor, Jerry Renshaw. Sumner presented the board with pictures of the items piled in Renshaw's yard. Sumner stated that in addition to it being an eyesore, the yard has attracted rats and the piles have caused sight line issues at the intersection. He also stated that Renshaw has bee hives and the bees swarm the neighbors and they cannot enjoy their yards.

The commissioners asked Shelton to give the pictures to the Health Department and ask them to address the rat problem and see if the bees cause a public safety issue. Painter was asked to check on the sight line at the intersection.

800# for Provisional Ballots

Clerk Jochim explained that the county currently has an 800 number which originally rang into the Auditor's office so people who live in the northern part of the county did not have to call long distance to reach the

courthouse. It was transferred to the Clerk's office when a law was passed saying an 800 number was required for people who vote by provisional ballot. Jochim has found that the county can get a new 800 number from PSC at no charge unless it is used and then the charge would be eight cents per minute. She further stated that since provisional ballots were offered there have been no calls to check on them after the vote. She asked that the original 800 number be transferred back to the Auditor's office and the new 800 number for provisional ballots only, be ordered.

Logsdon made a motion to approve the new 800 number for provisional ballots. Gogel seconded. All in favor. Logsdon made a motion to have the original 800 number transferred back to the Auditor's office. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Road Signs

Gilbert Weaver, who lives on CR 500 N near Orchard Road, showed the commissioners a petition signed by him and his neighbors asking for a sign to help slow the traffic on the road. Weaver stated that there are eighteen children who live within a half mile radius and vehicles travel down the road at 60 or 70 mph. Discussion was had on reducing the speed. Engineer Lloyd reminded the commissioners that they would have to pass an ordinance to make the reduction of the speed limit enforceable. Lueken suggested a sign reading "Reduced Speed Ahead." The commissioners instructed Lloyd to prepare an ordinance for the next meeting reducing the speed limit to 35 mph. Weaver stated he also spoke with Prosecutor Dartt and he is going to speak to Sheriff Lindsey about having an officer patrol the area.

Highway Report

Annual Report – Painter presented the Annual Operational Report for Local Roads and Streets to the commissioners for their approval. Gogel made a motion to approve the report. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Road Closures – Painter reported that CR 300 E, Lincoln City Road, will be closed starting May 7th through October. Signs are up alerting traffic to the closure. Painter further reported that both CR 350 E and Cr 1700 N will both be permanently closed on May 27th due to the construction of the new SR 231. Discussion was had on the road closures and traffic routes.

Sink Holes – Painter discussed some sink holes which have appeared in St. Meinrad along a culvert that the landowner says is in the county right-of-way. The culvert is also said to be causing water to be routed into the basement of another landowner. Lueken stated he will work with Painter and Lloyd to see if the land in question is within the jurisdiction of the county and what can and should legally be done.

Fuel Savings – Logsdon asked Painter if the move to 4 days per week has saved the county in fuel costs. Painter said he has not yet completed the data, but will bring it to the next meeting.

Engineer Report

Huffman Mill Bridge – Lloyd stated that there will be a joint meeting with Perry County on June 10th at 8:00 am in the Spencer County Commissioners' room to discuss the rehabilitation of the Huffman Mill Bridge.

Common Wage Hearing – Lloyd reported that the mandatory Common Wage Hearing was held on May 1st.

Road Bids – The first road bid will be opened at the commissioners' meeting on June 3rd. The Orchard Road project bids will be opened at the commissioners' meeting on June 24th.

CEDIT Plan – Lloyd discussed proposed plans for Highland Road and CR 200 E. Logsdon asked Lloyd to bring in a projection on the widening of Highland Road.

Legal Report

Richland Incorporation – Lueken and Nora Yeager discussed the next step in the incorporation of the town of Richland. Yeager stated that a hearing needs to be held. All property owners included in the area to be incorporated must receive notice of the hearing. Discussion was had on the location of the hearing. Logsdon made a motion for the commissioners to hold a hearing on the incorporation of the town of Richland on June 10th at a site to be determined later. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

US 231 Corridor Study – Lueken explained that Bernardin, Lochmueller & Associates, Inc. has requested GIS information from WTH to be used in the US 231 Lincoln Corridor Study. Logsdon made a motion to grant

permission to WTH to share the information with Bernardin, Lochmueller & Associates, Inc. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Christmas Lake Village Lots – Lueken discussed the county owned Christmas Lake Village (CLV) Lots and the commissioners’ sale. Discussions are still being had with the CLV Association Board. They will be meeting later this week and a commissioners’ sale should be able to be set at the next commissioners meeting. Lueken also discussed the CLV Property Owners’ Association fee liens and the possible release of the liens.

High Water Barricades – Shelton reported that no other counties she contacted had a county ordinance about disregarding high water barricades. Painter stated that he is still waiting on the price for the signs.

231 Adult Plaza – Lueken reported that the county had received the \$39,500 check for the fines paid by the owners of the 231 Adult Plaza, but there is still \$1,600 which was ordered and is unpaid. Lueken further reported that the Supreme Court ruled on the case and upheld the counties ordinance.

Executive Session – Lueken asked for the commissioners to hold an executive session after the May 20th meeting to discuss pending litigation.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Gogel seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 am.

Board of Commissioners,

_____	_____
President	
Attest:	
_____	_____
Cindy Shelton, Auditor	
